Message Text

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10

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12

ACDA-19 GAC-01 IO-12 OMB-01 T-03 RSR-01 /116 W

R 130740 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3771

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

CONFIDENTIAL KUALA LUMPUR 0988

E. O. 11652: GDS TAGS: ASPAC, MY

SUBJECT: GOM DISENGAGES FROM ASPAC

- 1. SUMMARY. GOM MFA MAR 12 ANNOUNCED THAT MALAYSIAN GOVERNMENT HAS DECIDED "THAT IT WILL NO LONGER PARTICIPATE IN ACTIVITIES OF ASPAC" AND AS RESULT WOULD NOT BE REPRESENTED AT MARCH 13 MEETING OF STANDING COMMITTEE IN BANGKOK. WHILE TIMING OF ANNOUNCEMENT OF SOME INTEREST, IT HAS BEEN EXPECTED FOR SOME TIME GOM INTENDED END TIES WITH ANTI- COMMUNIST- TINGED ORGANIZATION. END SUMMARY.
- 2. FOR PAST SEVERAL YEARS GOM HAS DEESCALATED ITS TIES WITH ASPAC, DISPATCHING LOW- LEVEL REPS TO ORGANIZATION'S ANNUAL MINISTERIAL MEETINGS. PARTICIPATION OF GRC AND GENERAL ANTI- COMMUNIST CAST OF GROUP WAS CONTRARY TO PRINCIPAL THRUST OF GOM FOREIGN POLICY WHICH HAS BEEN DIRECTED TO FOSTERING NON-CONFIDENTIAL

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ALIGNED IMAGE AND PROMOTING SEA NEUTRALIZATION PROPOSAL.

3. ACCORDING TO AUSTRALIANS, WHO HAVE BEEN IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH GOM ON THIS EXERCISE, AS OF MORNING MARCH 9 MALAYSIANS INTENDED SEND LOW- LEVEL EMBASSY REP TO BANGKOK MEETING, BUT DURING DAY PM RAZAK MADE DECISION TO WITHDRAW AND AUSTRALIANS WERE INFORMED OF THIS ON EVENING OF THAT DAY. LYDMAN

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^{***} Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

^{***} Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

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Disposition Action: RELEASED
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
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TAGS: PFOR, MY, ASPAC
To: BANGKOK

CANBERRA HONG KONG JAKARTA MANILA SAIGON

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